

We claim:

*Sab A2* 1 A home interface controller, for use in a configuration with a television of a subscriber to a cable television system, the cable television system having (i) an information source means available at a headend for supplying a plurality of information services, (ii) an information service distribution network, for delivering the information services to subscriber televisions, and (iii) a plurality of interactive controllers, disposed at the headend, each interactive controller (i) in communication with the information source means and (ii) assignable television communication and data communication with the configuration, wherein television communication involves transmission of signals capable of full motion video, the home interface controller comprising:

(a) a data transceiver, operative over a data communications link to the headend, for data communication with an assigned one of the interactive controllers that has been placed in data communication with the configuration; and

(b) a selection input for receiving signals from a subscriber selection device that permits subscriber interaction, using the data link for accessing the assigned one of the interactive controllers, and wherein the assigned one of the interactive controllers is also then in television communication with the television of the configuration, so as to provide thereto an information service from the information source means over the network by the signals capable of full motion video.

2. A home interface controller according to claim 1, wherein the data transceiver is operative in a communications link over the network.

3. A home interface controller according to claim 2, wherein the data communications link is operative at a radio frequency independent of any frequency used for television communication over the network.

4. A home interface controller according to claim 1, further comprising:

(c) a television input for receiving the signal capable of full motion video from the assigned one of the interactive controllers that is then in television communication therewith; and

(d) a signal output for providing the signal capable of full motion video to the particular television, so as to provide thereto an information service from the information source means over the network.

5. A home interface controller according to claim 4, wherein the data transceiver is operative in a communications link over the network.

6. A home interface controller according to claim 5, wherein the data communications link is operative at a radio frequency independent of any frequency used for television communication over the network.

7. A home interface controller for use with a television of a subscriber, wherein the home interface controller is in television communication and data communication with the cable television system, the home interface controller comprising:

a a data transceiver for data communication with one of a plurality of interactive processes over a data link in the cable television system;

b a selection input for receiving a data signal from a subscriber selection device that permits subscriber selection and interaction with the interactive process over the data link;

c a television input for receiving a signal capable of full motion video from the interactive process in response to the subscriber interaction; and

d a signal output for providing the signal capable of full motion video to the television.

8. The home interface controller according to claim 7, further comprising:

a tuner coupled to the television input for tuning to the signal capable of full motion video wherein the tuner is controlled in response to either the data signal from the selection input or the interactive process.

9. The home interface controller according to claim 7, further comprising:

a processor coupled to the television input for decompressing a digitally

compressed signal capable of full motion video and providing the decompressed signal to the signal output.

10. The home interface controller according to claim 7, wherein the interactive process provides digital full motion video

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